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Screening and surveillance for chemicals of emerging concern in the Great Lakes Basin

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The Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, Annex 12, addresses persistent toxic substances and calls for the US and Canada to deploy an "early warning system" in order to monitor for chemicals that may threaten the health of the Great Lakes ecosystem. EPA and Environment Canada are developing a surveillance program, which includes screening the TSCA and Canadian Domestic Substances List for physical chemical properties, such as persistence, bioaccumulation and long range transport, in order to assemble an analyte list for their respective fish and herring gull egg programs. Other considerations going into the development of this list include production rates, use and release patterns, and the development of suitable analytical methods with which to look for these substances. Preliminary screening results and future work will be discussed.

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